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Miscellaneous Reading.

FOR THE SOUTHERN ENTERPRISE.

To the Citizens of Greenville District.

FELLOW CITIZENS—By a portion of your

own number, we have been requested to ad-

dress you on a subject of vital interest.

Some of you have less means of information

than others; we therefore use great plain-

ness of speech.

Years ago the State of South Carolina

entered into a compact with other States for

the accomplishment of certain purposes, equally

important to them all. That compact is

known as the Constitution of the United

States. The purpose of that compact were

to form a more perfect union; to establish

justice; insure domestic tranquillity; promote

the general welfare; and secure the bless-

ings of liberty to ourselves and our

posterity. These were wise and noble pur-

poses, and the Union of States to accomplish

them was a wise and a glorious Union.

But in the hands of wicked and even

foolish men, the wisest and best things

are liable to be abused. It has been so here.

The Union of the Southern States with the

Northern has been the occasion of serious

evils to the Southern States—and is about

to be made the occasion of boundless dis-

aster and ruin, unless the Southern States

apply the remedy. We are not denying that

the South has, in common with the North,

derived advantages from this Union, particu-

larly in the earlier years of our history.

But in the case of the South these advan-

tages are outweighed by the disadvantages

to which she has been subjected, and they are

the mere dust of the balance in comparison

with the mischief she must yet experience,

unless she takes the remedy in her own

hand. The system of taxation under which

we have been living, has given to the North

annually the benefit of millions upon mil-

lions drawn off from the profits of Southern

labor. By a high tariff they have shut out

the fair competition, in our own markets,

of those who buy our products, and thus they

have made for themselves a market for their

manufactures, where they have been receiv-

ing such prices as have made them rich.

But this is the secret of Northern wealth.

Their large cities, their immense manufactur-

ing establishments, their enriching com-

merce, never would have existed but for

their connection with the South. This has

drawn to them an immense population from

abroad—and so they have been swimming

on upon a tide of wonderful prosperity.

Meanwhile, they have forgotten the hands

that fed them, and after having refused to

listen to the complaints of the South, they

have come to feel for her a contempt which

they express through their press and their

pulpits, and the men who speak for them

on the floor of Congress. In the halls of

Congress—common council-chamber—as

much as they, a representative of a

Northern State has dared to say of the

South, she "can't be kicked out of the

Union." Only within a few days, a leading

Boston paper recommends a certain treat-

ment of South Carolina, in order that she

may know "where she belongs to," and a

leading Pennsylvania paper proposes "to

buy South Carolina." This is the natural

effrontery of the highwayman who filches his

victim, and when he complains, smites him

in the face. The true things have been

done under the forms of law, but they

did not "establish justice," they did not

"promote the general welfare," unless jus-

tice consists in taking away the profits of

one party in a firm to give it to the other

party—unless the general welfare means the

gain of the greater number at the cost of

the smaller.

Facts like these, Fellow Citizens, led

forward men long ago to ask "what is the

value of the Union." But up to this time,

the people of the South have chosen to

abide by the compact rather than break it

up. A veneration for our honored ances-

tors, and the hope that certain false opi-

ons at the North would, like a sweeping

prairie fire, burn out, have kept our people

true to the Union. Conscious that they de-

sire no unequal advantage, and be it remem-

bered that the North has never pretended

that the South ever asked an unfair advantage,

they have indulged the reasonable expecta-

tion that the North would at length desist

from a trespass on Southern rights. This

expectation has been bitterly disappointed;

and now—now—must be blind who does not

see that those rights are now laid in the

duet, unless the South has the spirit to de-

fend them, if need be, even to the death.

A false opinion, which contradicts com-

mon sense, contradicts all history, contra-

dicts the Bible, has rooted itself into the

Northern mind. It is taught in their schools

and colleges; it is enforced in their pulpits;

it is the Gospel of Northern fanaticism.

That false opinion is, that every man is

born free and equal. The abettors of this

doctrine differ somewhat in the extent of

the inference they draw from it. Some of

them, (the most honest and consistent of

the class,) seeing it is virtually contradicted

by the Constitution of the United States,

(for that does not treat slaves as free, and

equal to what men,) denounce the Constitu-

tion as a "convenient with death and an

agreement with hell," and, therefore, they

are for dissolving the Union because it is

founded, in their judgment, on a rotten

compact. The larger class, however, are

for holding on to the Constitution, because,

by the use of their power under it they can

finally abolish slavery. Give them the Presi-

dency and its patronage; the millions of

money it has to dispense; the control of

the Post-Office, &c.; and in a few brief years

the slave States bordering on the North

will have to abandon slavery as the source

of them of endless vexation and loss, through

the interference of Abolition emissaries,

while no new States will be admitted but

such as are free—and then, by a vote of Con-

gress, their great idea will be carried out—

universal emancipation will be declared.

Then every negro in South Carolina, and in

every other Southern State, will be his own

master; nay, more than that, will be the

equal of every one of you. If you are tame

enough to submit, Abolition preachers will

be at hand to consummate the marriage of

your daughters to black husbands! Nay,

may we beg pardon of South Carolina wo-

men for such a suggestion. If their fathers

and their brothers have not the spirit to

break loose from a government whose elec-

ted Chief-Magistrate aims to establish such

a state of things, the daughters of South Car-

olina would die for shame, at the dishonor

of the men.

Fellow citizens, this is no picture of fan-

casy. It is a stern reality, which must arise

in the future, unless the infatuation of the

Northern mind is checked by a miracle, or

unless you yourselves apply the remedy.

Truth has its natural limitations; error has

none. A conscientious errorist is the most

hopeless subject with which you can treat.

A convicted errorist, especially if prosper-

ity feed his conceit, is the next bad case.

John Brown and Henry Ward Beecher, the

one an infidel and the other a Christian

preacher, belong to the first class. No de-

fect, not even death itself, would change

the opinion of such men as these, and many,

many such, are in the ranks of Northern

Abolitionism. The other class is the more

numerous. They glory in being wise.

They claim to be political philosophers, or

pride themselves on following in the wake

of such. They utter and echo the veriest

inaneities in a style befitting discoverers of

truth. Calmly ensconced in the sense of

their own security, they give currency to

theoretical opinions which they cannot but

see must damage others at a distance, with-

out sufficient foresight to perceive the re-

action of their own mischief on themselves,

like a silly boy who sets fire to a neighbor's

haystack, and flying to his father's house,

feels that he is safe, when the door closes,

until the lurid flame licks his hot tongue

against his own bed curtain. The North is

full of these shallow philosophers, a famous

New Yorker at their head. Of these men

there seems to be no hope except from the

actual experiment of their schemes. If the

first class labor under an incurable malady,

like disease of the heart, wherein the pa-

tient can't be cured, the other labor under

brain fever, which nothing can cure but

the lancet and the blister. If the Union is

dissolved, we answer for it, Mr. Seward will

in a short time be a much wiser man, with

very changed opinions. Let the Union

continue, and he, with all his disciples, will

remain as madly bent as they now are, on

universal emancipation.

But let us look more directly into the

face of the danger before us.

A citizen of the North has been brought

forward by a party at the North as Can-

didate for the Presidency, on the undisguised

and avowed ground, of his opposition

to slavery. A great political organization,

known as the Black Republican party, based

upon the theory that the negro is the

equal of the white man, had chosen Abra-

ham Lincoln as their candidate for the Presi-

dency. The election has just been decid-

ed. A majority of votes has been given for

this man.

Now, what does Mr. Lincoln intend?

Hear his own language: "I believe," he

says, "this government cannot endure per-

manently half slave and half free. I do

not expect the Union to be dissolved; I do

not expect the house to fall, but I do ex-

pect that it will cease to be divided. It

will become all one thing or all the other.

Either the opponents of slavery will arrest

the further spread of it, and place it where

the public mind shall rest in the belief that

it is in the course of ultimate extinction, or

its advocates shall push it forward until it

shall become alike lawful in all the States,

old as well as new, North as well as South.

This extract proves two things in regard

to this man. It shows, first, that in appeal-

ing to popular prejudice he is not incomp-

etible of disingenuousness and gross misrep-

resentations of others. When, in three quarters

of a century, have the Southern States, or

any single Southern State, or any citizen of

the United States,

kind to engraft slavery upon the

State? The suggestion is a

mischievous misrepresentation intended to

act upon a foolish mass, and to justify

their own impertinent interference with

the business of other people. This point

which this extract reveals is Mr. Lin-

coln's abandonment to that false opinion

which the whole Abolition agitation is

founded. He tells us again, "that as soon

as slavery is as much as any Abolitionist."

We care not to prove that Mr. Lincoln

would join hands with such a man as John

Brown to carry fire and bloodshed into a

slaveholding State—it is enough for us to

know that he is in full concert with what

the Black Republicans themselves would

consider as the respectable and conservative

part of their own party. Hear, then, what

two of the highest authorities among them

have proclaimed. One of them is a Sena-

tor from New York. Senator Seward says:

"Free labor has at last apprehended its

rights and its destiny, and is organizing to

self to assume the government of the Repub-

lic. It will hereafter meet you boldly and

resolutely here. [Washington.] * * *

It has driven you back in California and

Kansas; it will invade you soon in Dela-

ware, Maryland, Virginia, Missouri and

Texas." * * * The interests of the whole